

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

A. Introduction

The present application is the national stage of international application No. PCT/IT03/00713 filed on November 4, 2003.

While the international application was filed in the English language, certain terminology in the specification and in the claims does not conform to proper idiomatic English. Additionally, the structure of the claims does not conform to the applicable U.S. rules.

Therefore, corrections to the specification and claims have been introduced by means of this preliminary amendment, submitted pursuant to 37 CFR 1.115.

B. In the Specification

A substitute specification is submitted together with this preliminary amendment pursuant to 37 CFR 1.125 and MPEP 608.01(q). In particular:

1. No new matter has been added pursuant to 37 CFR 1.125(b);
2. A marked up version and a clean version of the substitute specification are enclosed pursuant to 37 CFR 1.125(c).

Regarding the changes to the original specification:

- a. Paragraph numbering has been added;
- b. Section titles have been added pursuant to MPEP 608.01(a);
- c. Proper idiomatic English language has been introduced throughout;
- d. Certain wording has been altered in order to maintain consistency of terms between written description and claims.

C. In the Claims

Claims 1-7 are pending in the present application. Therefore, upon entry of this preliminary amendment, claims 1-7 will be subject to examination.

As in the specification, proper idiomatic English usage has also been introduced in the claims. Additionally, the claims have been rewritten to comply with MPEP formatting requirements. For examples, proper usage of the articles “a” and “the” has been introduced; multiple dependencies in the additive have been eliminated; punctuation has been revised; and, in general, flow of language has been rearranged to conform with U.S. claim drafting format. No new matter has been added.

CONCLUSION

In view of the amendments and remarks submitted herein, Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

If it is felt for any reason that direct communication would serve to advance prosecution of the present application in this case, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned agent of record, Franco A. Serafini, by telephone, fax, or e-mail.

Dated: May 6, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

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